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SECURITY INFORMATION

12 March 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director, Intelligence

SUBJECT: Collection of Intelligence Materials from Overt Sources Overseas

REFERENCE: Memo, AD/CD to DDI, dated 19 February 1953, subject as above

1. The State Department's Publications Procurement Program overseas is in process of dissolution. Moscow has been without a PPO since May, 1952 (see Tab A). The PPO formerly stationed in Rome is now being withdrawn (see Tab B). In addition, I am informed that the PPO in Berlin has now been instructed to cease procurement from the SovZone due to the personal danger involved in crossing the barrier.

2. It is essential that action be taken at once to find an alternative means of obtaining publications from overseas. Reference proposed that DDI personnel, responsible to Senior Representatives overseas, be sent abroad to undertake procurement. This proposal was approved in principle by all your AD's except AD/IC, who felt that it might be preferable for CIA to integrate some of its own personnel into the State program.

3. Referenced memo, and the discussion surrounding it, have now been overtaken by events. It is my belief that we should now seriously consider whether or not CIA should undertake entire support of the Publications Procurement Program under an arrangement similar to that now in effect for procurement of geographic materials. Such an arrangement would imply:

a. That one of your officers be made to wear two hats - serving as State Department's Director of Publications Procurement in addition to his other duties.

b. That Publications Procurement Officers be paid and designated by CIA for assignment overseas [REDACTED] 25X1C4a

c. That the PPO's operate under instructions to be supplied by 3 a above.

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d. That provision be made for the use of unvouchered funds in publication procurement in those areas and under those circumstances which require the use of such funds for effective results.

e. That all publications procured by the Program be delivered direct to CIA for processing and dissemination.

4. It is recommended that you approve in principle the above suggested program, and that discussions with State be commenced at once in order to ascertain the amount of budgetary support which would be needed to put the program into effect.

5. Due to the delays which have taken place in our earlier efforts to find a solution to this problem, and due to the current pressure of events, copies of this memo are being delivered to your other AD's for their information rather than being submitted to them for their concurrence.

James M. Andrews
Assistant Director
Collection & Dissemination

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I understand it is the Department's policy
to clear Mr. David G. Munford for the Moscow post
and I realize that temporary arrangements for continuing
procurement in Moscow were undertaken. Unfortunately, in
terms of numbers of pieces the latter have resulted in not
more than one third of the receipts formerly supplied.

The Library would like to strongly
recommend Mr. Theodore M. Nordbeck
as a very capable person to fill the position of
Acting Director of the Office of Libraries and
Intelligence Acquisitions.

Sir:

On February 18, 1953, the Chief Assistant
Librarian of Congress in a telephone conversation with
Mr. Theodore M. Nordbeck of the State Department expressed
his great concern over the extraordinary delay in the
appointment of a Publications Procurement Officer to the
American Embassy in Moscow. I concur in that expression
of concern.

It is of the utmost importance to strategic
research in this country that there be available at the
post in Moscow a full time Publications Procurement
Officer who can regain and continue the coverage of Soviet
issuances which was effective prior to the return of
Mr. Charles Molane from that post last May.

The urgency of this appointment is redoubled
now that the East Berlin sources of Soviet publications
have been cut off.

I am aware of the Department's unsuccessful
attempts to clear Mr. David G. Munford for the Moscow post
and I realize that temporary arrangements for continuing
procurement in Moscow were undertaken. Unfortunately, in
terms of numbers of pieces the latter have resulted in not
more than one third of the receipts formerly supplied.

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I understand informally that Mr. Charles McLane might consider returning to his former position at the Embassy if it were offered to him. From the point of view of the Library of Congress, his reappointment would be very desirable.

The Library cannot urge too strongly the Department's early attention to this procurement problem and I shall be very happy to cooperate in any way open to me to aid the Department in the problem's solution.

Sincerely yours,

Luther H. Evans
Librarian of Congress

The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington 25, D. C.